



News From

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MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE & MELONI ANNOUNCE WORK ON \$50 MILLION JAIL EXPANSION PROJECT TO BEGIN IN APRIL

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle and Sheriff Andrew P. Meloni today announced that work on the County Jail expansion is scheduled to start in mid-April. The \$50 million jail project will commence with excavation and site preparation work at the new building's Plymouth Avenue location.

A formal groundbreaking ceremony has been scheduled for 10 a.m. on Monday, April 10th.

"The April groundbreaking will kick-off construction of the much anticipated jail expansion," said County Executive Doyle. "This project will create more than 400 additional cells at the County Jail complex, easing the overcrowding situation and better ensuring that our jail deputies and other personnel can continue to serve this community in a safe environment."

"This is a day the entire Jail Bureau staff has been waiting for: relief from the effects of jail overcrowding," said Sheriff Andrew P. Meloni. "Jail Deputies may now look forward to normalcy in their workday operation. The crisis and chaotic conditions will soon disappear."

The initial construction phase for excavation and site preparation is expected to run from mid-April to the beginning of September.

In September, the county expects to award the remaining construction contracts for an ultimate project completion date in the Fall of 2002. To date, contracts awarded for the expansion project have been 5% below estimates.

It has been projected that the project will create more than 150 construction jobs.

Once complete, the expansion will add 424 pre-fabricated steel cells to the current jail. The additional facility will also include new kitchen and laundry services for both the new and existing jail areas.

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It is anticipated that parking will be at a premium in this area of downtown due to this and other construction projects. Current renovations to the Hall of Justice and Civic Center have reduced the number of parking spaces available in the Civic Center Parking Garage. In order to stage the construction for the new City Public Safety Building, the City of Rochester has also announced that it will be closing the parking lots on Exchange Boulevard, south of Court Street along the river.

County officials have scheduled a meeting with the City of Rochester to study parking within the West Main Street area of downtown and to seek out possible solutions.

To alleviate some of the anticipated parking congestion, Monroe County is leasing the more than one-acre parcel at 97 West Main Street to offer additional parking for downtown workers. This site will also be used to locate some construction trailers, materials and equipment for the jail expansion project

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